

# ATHLETIC

WIGAN

OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME 15p



FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP — 1st ROUND — 2nd LEG

v.

## TRANMERE ROVERS

Wednesday, 16th August, 1978

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

# **UNSWORTHS**

**438-440 WARRINGTON ROAD  
GOOSE GREEN, WIGAN**

**MOTOR COACH TOURS — TELEPHONE 43167  
FOR DAY EXCURSIONS AND PRIVATE PARTY OUTINGS**

**— Agents for Booking —**

BARNES, 34 Market Street, Wigan.  
Tel. 42972.

GEORGESONS, 171 Moor Road, Orrell.  
Tel. Up Holland 622431

CRANKS, Marsh Green Post Office.  
Tel. 82033.

ANDERS, 1 White Street, Pemberton.  
Tel. 83113.

GREEN, 282 Wigan Road, Bryn.  
Tel. 77529.

LIPTROT, 230 Lily Lane, Bamfurlong.  
Tel. 866194.

HIGHAM, 153 Bolton Road, Ashton.  
Tel. 73727.

BOWKER, 603 Bickershaw Lane,  
Bickershaw. Tel. 866282.

**For your next USED CAR**

**Look in at—**



# **RUSS RIGBY MOTOR CO.**

**LEIGH ROAD, HINDLEY GREEN, WIGAN**

**Phone : Wigan 55836**

**ALWAYS A GOOD SELECTION**

**MANY WITH 12 MONTHS WARRANTY**

**Income Tax Consultant, 70 Springfield Road, Wigan, Lancs. WN6 7BB  
(see also our Business Consultants advertisement)**

**T. H. BLEASDALE**

**WRITE, CALL OR TELEPHONE WIGAN 48503**

**P.A.Y.E. Consultant (Employed Persons)**

**Schedule 'D' Consultant (Businesses)**

**Investment Advisers — Insurance (all types)**

**House Purchase Insurance Loans**

**BUSINESS CLERICAL WORK ACCEPTED**

## **OUR VISITORS**

### **WIGAN ATHLETIC A.F.C. LTD.**

Registered Office :  
**SPRINGFIELD PARK**  
**WIGAN**  
Telephone 44433

Chairman :  
**Mr. A. O. HORROCKS**  
Vice-Chairman :  
**Mr. A. MUIR**

Directors :  
Messrs.  
**J. H. FARRIMOND**  
**A. ECKERSLEY**  
**J. T. SUDWORTH**  
**G. D. GORNER**

Manager :  
**I. McNEILL**

Secretary :  
**D. WELSBY**

Hon. Medical Officer :  
**Dr. G. MENON**

**TRANMERE ROVERS**, our first ever visitors to Wigan in a competitive Football League competition are very welcome opposition tonight.

Tranmere were founded in 1883 and play at Prenton Park, Birkenhead, their club colours are White shirts and Royal Blue shorts. In the early part of this century they played in the Lancashire Alliance and later the Lancashire Combination. In 1909 they won the Liverpool County Cup.

When the Football League Division 3(N) was formed in 1921, Tranmere were one of the originals. 1938 saw them gain promotion as Champions of the 3rd (N) and they went into Division 2.

When the League formed four Divisions in 1957 they were in Division 3.

Tranmere Rovers have produced many great players, Dixie Dean, Pongo Waring, Bill Riddings, Ellis Rimmer, Tommy Jones and many more.

John King, their present Manager, was a player with Wigan in the early seventies.

We welcome their Directors, Officials and Players to Springfield Park tonight for what we hope will be an enjoyable game.

The score after the first leg played at Tranmere last Saturday, stands at Tranmere 1, Latics 1. Scorers : McCauley (85 minutes) for Tranmere and Gore (90 minutes) for Latics. Attendance : 4,402.

## **A word from the Manager**

GOOD EVENING. I welcome each and everyone of you to Springfield Park this evening in our first competitive game as members of the Football League.

We now have the opportunity we have always wanted and we will do everything in our power to maintain a high standard both on and off the field.

Most of our players you will know from last season, but our six new lads—I will give you a brief resume :

**KEVIN SMART**, age 19. Signed from Plymouth Argyle. Born in Newcastle. Kevin spent three years with the West Country side and made 42 appearances. Kevin is a very aggressive, determined full-back and should do well at Wigan.

**NEIL DAVIDS**, age 22. Signed from Swansea City. Neil is the ex-Leeds and Norwich centre-half and looks to have an excellent future at Wigan. He has been most impressive in pre-season workouts. Very solid defender.

**ALAN CROMPTON**, age 20. Signed from Blackburn Rovers. Alan has done extremely well so far and has forced himself into the side. Very determined front runner with good skills.

**IAN PURDIE**, age 25. Signed from Motherwell. A fast, elusive winger, Ian has already made himself a firm favourite with the Wigan supporters. Ian has Under-23 International Honours for Scotland.

**IAN SEDDON**, age 27. Signed from Rochdale. Ian has been unfortunate so far with a niggling muscle strain, but has great control and vision and his experience should stand him in good stead here at Springfield Park. Spent six years with Bolton.

**GEOFF GAY**, age 22. Signed for a trial period from Southport. Geoff was a regular with Southport last season. A versatile player, Geoff is also an ex-Bolton player. Due to injury he has been unable to perform in the pre-season matches.

Trust everyone enjoys tonight's match.

**IAN McNEILL,**  
Manager.

## **Forthcoming Fixtures**

### **NEXT HOME MATCH**

#### **FOOTBALL LEAGUE — DIVISION 4**

**Wednesday, 23rd August, 1978**

**WIGAN ATHLETIC v. GRIMSBY TOWN**

**Kick-off 7.30 p.m.**

**WIGAN ATHLETIC A.F.C. — SEASON 1978-79**

Back Row : K. SMART, P. HOUGHTON, N. DAVIDS, G. GAY, J. BROWN, F. CORRIGAN, N. WARD, J. HINNIGAN, J. WRIGHT  
Front Row : I. McNEILL (Manager), A. CROMPTON, I. SEDDON, T. GORE, I. PURDIE, I. WILKIE, K. BANKS (Trainer)



NEW AND REBUILT  
**CASH REGISTERS**

(12 MONTHS GUARANTEE)

TYPEWRITERS

CALCULATORS

ELECTRONIC CASH MACHINES



SHOWROOM :

**Wigan  
Business Equipment  
Limited**

**8 ORRELL ROAD, ORRELL**

OFFICE STATIONERY SUPPLIES

SERVICE TO EXISTING MACHINES  
AND SUPPLIERS OF TILL ROLLS

For prompt and expert attention

Telephone : **WIGAN 212490**

(24-hour Answering Service)

For all your Office and Stationery Requirements

FORT KNOX FLOOR SAFES



BOOKS  
MAGAZINES  
RECORDS  
STATIONERY

**41 Mesnes Street Wigan**  
**Telephone 46270/42810**

smithsbookshop

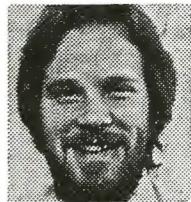


LOCATION OF  
FOURTH DIVISION CLUBS  
1978-79



## LATICS LINE

by Nick Duxbury



Many Wigan Athletic fans will find it hard to keep back the emotion tonight as Latics finally make their home debut in competitive soccer as a Football League club.

The long awaited baptism of fire at Springfield Park has come at last and for those who followed Latics through the non-League wilderness, the League Cup first round, second leg, against Tranmere Rovers is the realisation of a dream.

After having knocked on the League door for so long, the news of Latics election must have hit even the most supreme optimist like a bomb and for some, the Club's new status still hasn't quite sunk in.

But new 'recruits' and long-standing fans alike have the chance to share a unique occasion tonight, at an August cup game which should provide something to remember for years to come.

For if ever there was an event to give weight to the "I was there" tag, tonight's game is it. An historic moment, not only for the Club, players and supporters, but the town as well.

Of course Latics have their League debut to come, along with a host of other 'firsts', but the battle with the Rovers, managed by former Latics player Johnny King, stands out as something extra special.

Tonight's momentous occasion does not make the result immaterial — Latics have to keep the 'floating' fans drawn by the game's novelty value and only a good performance will do that.

It may be easy to forget amid all the celebration that Latics are now earning their bread and butter among the big boys. It will be a hard slog, but hopefully a very rewarding one.

---

**WE ARE BACKING "LATICS" ALL THE WAY**

Home and Away — read **NICK DUXBURY** in Wigan's own

**Evening Post & Chronicle**

---

**For Holidays and Travel contact—**

# **World Wide T**

**55 - 57 MESNES S**

**I. A. T. A.**

**Telephone Wigan**



## **CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE**

The 2nd June 1978, will always be a date remembered by Wigan Athletic fans, being the day when, after many years of frustration, we realised our ambition by being elected to Associate Membership of the finest League in the World, "The Football League."

The success of our application was due to many factors, including the efforts of our manager, Mr. Ian McNeill, the consistency of his playing staff, who by finishing runners-up in the NPL ensured our nomination for consideration for entry into the Football League, my fellow directors who spared no time or effort in making personal contact with all the 1st and 2nd Division clubs to canvass their support, and our secretary who made most of the arrangements for our many appointments.

When I was honoured by being asked to re-join the Board and become your Chairman again, I dared not envisage the success we would enjoy during my first year in office : a thrilling run in the FA Cup, runners-up in the NPL, winners of the Lancashire Junior Cup, and to cap it all, admission to the Football League.

We thank all, who by their support, enabled us to achieve League status, and assure them that we will do all in our power to uphold that support, and ensure that never again will the town of Wigan be without a League club.

I appeal to our supporters to give your Board of Directors, Manager and Playing Staff, your unstinted support, and present a good image to the football world by your good behaviour at all our matches, both home and away, and encourage our younger supporters to refrain from encroaching onto the playing area.

I am very proud to be your Chairman, I only wish that the stalwarts of years ago, too many to mention individually, could have been here tonight to witness the beginning of this, exciting era.

**ARTHUR HORROCKS (Chairman).**

# 'ravel Limited

**TREET - WIGAN**

**41236 (5 lines)**



---

**FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP — 1st ROUND — 2nd LEG  
WEDNESDAY, 16th AUGUST, 1978, Kick-off 7-30 p.m.**

## **Line-up**

### **WIGAN ATHLETIC**

(Blue and White stripes)

1	JOHN BROWN	1	JOHNSON
2	TOMMY GORE	2	MATTHIAS
3	JOE HINNIGAN	3	FLOOD
4	JEFF WRIGHT	4	PARRY
5	NOEL WARD	5	BRAMHALL
6	IAN GILLIBRAND	6	EVANS
7	FRANK CORRIGAN	7	PEPLOW
8	ALAN CROMPTON	8	O'NEIL
9	PETER HOUGHTON	9	MOORE
10	JOHN WILKIE	10	KERR
11	IAN PURDIE	11	McCAULEY
12	NEIL DAVIDS	12	

### **TRANMERE ROVERS**

(White shirts, Royal Blue shorts)

**Referee : Mr. C. L. NEWSOME (Broseley)**

**Linesmen :**

Mr. G. BAILEY (Stockport) Red Flag  
Mr. J. CONSTABLE (Blackburn) Yellow Flag

---

## **OPINION**

by Harold Ashurst

---

Tonight sees the start of a new era of football in Wigan.

Since Latics were elected to the Football League in June many words have been written and spoken by a lot of people pointing out that it was time Latics were admitted and how well they would do now.



Well, now it is up to you, the fans, to put your support where your mouths are. When Latics were in non-league and cup-ties came around against Third and Fourth Division clubs they got invariably the best 'gate' of the round. Tonight Latics' opponents are from the Third Division and every match this season, cup-ties apart, will be against a Fourth Division club. If that does not guarantee support nothing does.

Latics' Chairman, Mr. Arthur Horrocks, has said that League Football must never be allowed to leave this town again. I am sure everyone connected with the town will back him up and come and cheer Latics on. Heaven knows, the whole town has campaigned long enough, and the honour is well deserved.

Of course the Club must do their part to keep the support, but fans should not start moaning if the team lose a couple, remember Rome wasn't built in a day and to progress will take time.

The people of Wigan deserve a Football League team and tonight's Football League Cup-tie against Tranmere Rovers should provide a fitting send off, irrespective of what happened on Saturday.

---

**For the Brightest Match Reports and Latest News**

read HAROLD ASHURST who writes every Friday in

**The Wigan Observer**

---

# RESULTS 1978-79

## HOME MATCHES IN CAPITALS

	Date	Opponents	Score	Gate	Scorers
1978					
Aug	19	Hereford			
	23	GRIMSBY			
	26	Reading			
Sept	2	NEWPORT			
	9	Wimbledon			
	13	ROCHDALE			
	16	BRADFORD			
	23	York			
	26	Portsmouth			
	30	SCUNTHORPE			
Oct	7	Huddersfield			
	14	DONCASTER			
	18	HALIFAX			
	21	Barnsley			
	28	NORTHAMPTON			
Nov	4	Stockport			
	10	Newport			
	18	READING			
	26	FA 1			
Dec	2	TORQUAY			
	9	Darlington			
	16	FA 2			
	23	Port Vale			
	26	CREWE			
	30	ALDERSHOT			
1979					
Jan	1	Hartlepool			
	6	Rochdale			
	13	WIMBLEDON			
	20	Bradford			
	27	YORK			
Feb	3	PORTSMOUTH			
	10	Scunthorpe			
	17	HUDDERSFIELD			
	24	Doncaster			
Mar	3	BARNESLEY			
	10	Northampton			
	17	STOCKPORT			
	24	Grimsby			
	28	HEREFORD			
	31	BOURNEMOUTH			
Apr	7	Torquay			
	13	PORT VALE			
	14	Crewe			
	16	HARTEPOOL			
	21	Aldershot			
	24	Halifax			
	28	DARLINGTON			
May	9	Bournemouth			
	12	F.A. CUP FINAL			

George  
Hinching  
Wright  
Barry  
Brown  
Gillibrand  
Corrigan  
Compston  
Houghton  
Mike  
Purdie  
David

**Holiday and Cruising Specialists**

# **JOHN EARL TRAVEL LTD.**

**MARSDEN STREET, WIGAN**

**Telephone 46967**

---

Also at

**6 HIGH STREET, CHORLEY. Telephone 5931**

## **LEWIS AND RABY**

**(ENGINEERS) LIMITED**

**DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING ENGINEERS  
TO THE RUBBER INDUSTRY SINCE 1948**



Our expertise in special purpose machinery, covers, calendering, extruding cooling and stacking lines, automatic conveyor systems, material handling equipment and general ancillary plant, all complete with mechanical and electrical services and controls

**HEAD OFFICE AND WORKS :**

**BIRCHILL ROAD, KIRKBY INDUSTRIAL ESTATE  
LIVERPOOL L33 7TG, ENGLAND**

**Telephone 051 - 546 2882**

# **Associated Tyre Specialists**

**ELECTRONIC WHEEL BALANCING — VULCANISED REPAIRS  
BATTERIES — WHEEL ALIGNMENT**

**98 WARRINGTON ROAD  
NEWTOWN, WIGAN**  
Tel. 42017 - 42442

**MARKET STREET  
STANDISH, WIGAN**  
Tel. 423146 - 423732

Business (Clerical) Consultants — 70 Springfield Road, Wigan, Lancs. WN6 7BB

## **T. H. BLEASDALE**

**WRITE, CALL or TELEPHONE WIGAN 48503**

Small Shops or Businesses, Clerical Work undertaken for moderate weekly fees  
(allowable for income tax relief)

We enter all your Invoices, etc. — We keep all your VAT Records  
We complete your quarterly VAT Form 100, and complete Annual Accounts

**WE TAKE AWAY ALL YOUR BUSINESS WORRIES**

## **J. R. CANNELL**

Landscape Gardeners — New House Farm Garden Centre

OPEN EVERY DAY. Our nurseries are situated between Orrell Station and Windy Arbour  
Visit us, there's lots to see—pottery, flower arranging materials, house plants, shrubs,  
trees, conifers, hedging plants, fruit trees, compost, pet supplies, greenhouses, DIY  
supplies and all garden sundries. Flags, walling stone, sand, gravel, cement, ash,  
fencing materials, rockery stone and turf. Telephone UP HOLLAND 622735.

Landscape Dept. Estimates free on request for lawns, rockeries, flagging, fencing,  
tree felling or complete garden layouts. (Members of the Horticultural Trades Assoc.)

**WINSTANLEY ROAD - ORRELL**

## **MILLER'S for Motorcycles**

**HONDA — SUZUKI — YAMAHA**  
**SPARES — REPAIRS — SERVICE**

Telephone Wigan 44197 and 43872

**11-27 ORMSKIRK ROAD, NEWTOWN, WIGAN**

## **FOOTBALL PROGRAMME COLLECTIONS WANTED**

Top prices paid for pre-war programmes — Cup Finals, Semi-finals, Internationals and pre-1960 League and Cup programmes.

Collectors, please send 10p stamp for my current catalogue, containing special sections on Wigan Athletic and today's opponents, plus Finals, Semis, Internationals, General League, Non-League, etc.

CLUBS SHOPS ALSO SUPPLIED

### **David Clarke (Soccer Programmes)**

**UNIT 51, RODNEY HOUSE, KING STREET, WIGAN**

(Personal callers by appointment, please)

**HOT PIES, DRINKS, SNACKS and FULLY LICENSED BARS  
around the Ground**

### **CATERING IN SPORT**

Efficiently and Nationally

## **CATERLEISURE LIMITED**

**197-199 MAIN STREET, WILSDEN, BRADFORD BD15 0JD**

### **FRIENDS OF WIGAN ATHLETIC**

**WHEN YOU BUY A**

**LITTLEWOODS INSTANT PRIZE LOTTERY TICKET  
YOU ARE HELPING THE CLUB**



**TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE IN THE CLUB AND BARS**

**GET YOUR TICKET NOW — PRICE 25p**



**YOU COULD BE THE WINNER OF £1,000**

**One ticket in 10 is a Winner**

# RATHBONE Bros. Ltd.

BAKERS AND CONFECTIONERS

GOWER STREET, NEWTOWN,  
WIGAN

Join us for a drink — before and after the game — at the

## SPRINGFIELD HOTEL

(one minute from the Ground)

YOUR HOSTS : MARIE & ERIC DOWBEKIN

HOT AND COLD SNACKS AVAILABLE AT THE BAR

TETLEY BEER AT ITS BEST

## EAVESWAY

LUXURY COACH OPERATORS — 12, 33, 45, 53, 57 seaters and  
EXECUTIVE COACHES

WORLD TRAVEL AGENTS

MEMBERS OF A.B.T.A.

201 WIGAN ROAD  
ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD

Telephone 77985

30 CROSS LANE  
NEWTON-LE-WILLOWS

Telephone 4166 & 5956

Telephone : Wigan 42887 & 42918

## MICRON ELECTRICAL Co.

ENGINEERS - CONTRACTORS - COLOUR TELEVISION

134 GIDLLOW LANE, WIGAN

---

## **Club Notes**

---

COACHES TO MOST AWAY GAMES WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GROUND AT TIMES TO BE NOTIFIED. BOOKINGS MAY BE MADE IN THE SUPPORTERS' CLUB.

---

## **Today's Referee**

---

**BERT NEWSOME** (Broseley, Shropshire), started refereeing whilst in the Army, then progressed through local Shropshire Leagues, Midland Intermediate and Central Leagues, to the Football League. Refereed the 1975 England v. Wales Youth International, and lined the France v. Spain International, in Paris, in 1961. Officiated in Italy for the Anglo-Italian competition and also at the Bayern Munich v. Anderlecht European Super Cup in 1976, and also England v. Wales Youth International.

He is a New Towns Information Officer and his interests are gardening, home decorating, cooking, antiques and most sports—but especially squash.

---

## **How far we travel**

---

ROCHDALE	26	miles	GRIMSBY	123	miles
STOCKPORT	26	"	HIEREFORD	131	"
CREWE	32	"	HARTLEPOOL	132	"
HUDDERSFIELD	41	"	NORTHAMPTON	145	"
HALIFAX	45	"	NEWPORT	188	"
BRADFORD	52	"	READING	192	"
PORT VALE	53	"	WIMBLEDON	197	"
BARNSLEY	55	"	ALDERSHOT	215	"
DONCASTER	70	"	PORTSMOUTH	240	"
YORK	89	"	BOURNEMOUTH	246	"
SCUNTHORPE	93	"	TORQUAY	282	"
DARLINGTON	116	"			

# **Smiths Happiway Spencers**

**70 MARKET STREET, WIGAN**

**TELEPHONE (0942) 44246**

Extended coach tours to destinations throughout Britain and the  
Continent from 3 to 15 days duration.

Joining points throughout the North West, North Wales and  
West Yorkshire.

---

**THREE, FOUR & FIVE DAY WINTER BREAKS from £20**  
Destinations include :

**LONDON, - EDINBURGH, - AMSTERDAM - PARIS**  
**DUBLIN - CHANNEL ISLANDS**  
and 20 British seaside resorts

---

**Over 90 Summer Tours with durations from 7 to 14 days**  
**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT**

## **British Credit Trust**

### **LIFESTYLE 77**

**A Complete Financial Service to**

- **THE MOTOR TRADE**
- **INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE**
- **THE PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL**

**Manchester Regional Office :**

**LEE HOUSE, 90 BRIDGEWATER STREET, MANCHESTER M60 7LA**  
Telephone 061-236 2121

**Local Branch Office :**

**BENTINCK HOUSE, 78 PRESCOT ROAD, ST. HELENS WA10 3TZ**  
Telephone 26516  
Branch Manager : COLIN H. BAMFORD.

# family choice



... where cars of value and quality  
come together with the kind of service  
important to all car owners.

**H. L. GORNER LTD**  
**NICOL ROAD, BRYN, WIGAN**

Telephone : Ashton-in-Makerfield 78588

---

**CAR & VAN HIRE**

---

MAIN DEALER CHRYSLER  
UNITED KINGDOM